

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 19860 181643Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
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C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 19860

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, CSCE, SHUM, UR
SUBJECT: REFUSENIK AND DISSIDENT COMMUNITIES FAIRLY
INACTIVE

REF: MOSCOW 18653

SUMMARY: DISSIDENT AND REFUSENIK ACTIVITIES REMAIN
VERY LIMITED. IRINA ORLOVA HAS RECEIVED WORD THAT HER
HUSBAND ARRIVED AUGUST 4 AT LABOR CAMP. SHE DEPARTS
MOSCOW WEEKEND OF AUGUST 19 ON TRIP TO TRY TO SEE HIM.
AUSTRALIAN COMMUNIST TRADE UNION OFFICIAL, WHO MAY
HAVE BEEN SAME PERSON WHOSE REPORTED MEETING WITH HIGH
SOVIET TRADE UNION OFFICIAL WAS DESCRIBED REFTEL,
REPORTEDLY UNDERWENT CLOSE QUESTIONING BY CUSTOMS
AUTHORITIES WHEN HE DEPARTED SOVIET UNION. END SUMMARY.

1. DOG DAYS SLUMP IN REFUSENIK AND DISSIDENT
ACTIVITIES. MOSCOW'S DOG DAYS DO NOT MATCH THOSE
OF WASHINGTON, BUT DISSIDENT AND REFUSENIK ACTIVISTS
NEVERTHELESS DESERT MOSCOW IN SUBSTANTIAL NUMBERS
DURING THEM FOR A FEW WEEKS OF CHANGED ENVIRONMENT.
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PAGE 02 MOSCOW 19860 181643Z

ORGANIZED ACTIVITIES THIS MONTH HAVE BEEN VERY
LIMITED AND MOSTLY IN RESPONSE TO REGIME INITIATIVES,
SUCH AS PODRABINEK TRIAL AND GINZBURG APPEAL HEARING
(ON WHICH SEPTTEL REPORTS). THE ONE SIGNIFICANT
INITIATIVE OF HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVISTS HAS BEEN STATE-
MENT OF SUPPORT FOR CHARTER 77 MOVEMENT IN CZECHOSLO-
VAKIA. AT PRESENT WE HAVE NOTHING TO ADD TO PRESS

REPORTS ON THIS STATEMENT. MONTH OF SEPTEMBER, WHEN SUMMER LULL IS OVER, SHOULD GIVE US A BETTER SENSE OF EXTENT TO WHICH PRESENT DOLDRUMS ARE SIMPLY SUMMER-RELATED OR WHETHER REGIME CAMPAIGN AGAINST ACTIVISM HAS SERIOUSLY CRIPPLED IT FOR PRESENT.

2. ORLOV AT LABOR CAMP. IRINA ORLOVA HAS RECEIVED NOTIFICATION FROM PRISON CAMP OFFICIALS THAT HER HUSBAND ARRIVED AT THE CAMP ON AUGUST 4. HIS ADDRESS IS 618810 PERMSKAYA OBLAST, CHUSOVSKOI RAION, STANTSIYA VSESVYATSKAYA, UCHREZHDEMIE VC-389/35, ORLOV, YU.F.

3. MRS. ORLOVA PLANS TO LEAVE FOR THE CAMP WEEKEND OF AUGUST 19 IN HOPES OF SEEING HER HUSBAND. SHE HAS SENT A TELEGRAM TO THE CAMP DIRECTOR, BUT INTENDS TO GO EVEN IF SHE RECEIVES NO REPLY.

4. SLEPAKS. EMBOFF SAW MARIYA SLEPAK AT SYNAGOGUE AUGUST 12. SHE HAS NOT YET HEARD FROM HER HUSBAND, WHO DEPARTED FOR EXILE SEVERAL WEEKS AGO. HER PHYSICAL APPEARANCE WAS GOOD, BUT EMBOFF HAD IMPRESSION THAT SHE REMAINS EMOTIONALLY SHAKEN BY RECENT EVENTS.

5. AUSTRALIAN TRADE UNION OFFICIAL. PARA 7 REFTEL DISCUSSED A REFUSENIK REPORT OF AN AUSTRALIAN VISITOR'S MEETING WITH A HIGH-LEVEL SOVIET TRADE
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PAGE 03 MOSCOW 19860 181643Z

UNION OFFICIAL. AN AUSTRALIAN EMBOFF HAS RECENTLY GIVEN US A COPY OF A RADIO AUSTRALIA ITEM ON AIRPORT HARASSMENT REPORTEDLY SUFFERED BY JOHN HALFPENNY, VICTORIAN STATE SECRETARY OF THE AMALGAMATED METAL-WORKERS AND SHIPWRIGHTS UNION (A COMMUNIST TRADE UNION, ACCORDING TO THE RADIO). HALFPENNY TOLD REPORTERS HE HAD BEEN QUESTIONED FOR AN HOUR BY CUSTOMS OFFICIALS AT TIME OF DEPARTURE BECAUSE THEY FOUND DOCUMENTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEMS IN HIS LUGGAGE. THE REPORT SAYS THAT HALFPENNY DID NOT SEE ANY SOVIET OFFICIALS, BUT DID MEET A NUMBER OF DISSIDENTS.

6. COMMENT: THERE ARE ENOUGH PARALLELS BETWEEN THIS REPORT AND REFTEL TO CAUSE US TO BELIEVE THAT THEY REFER TO SAME PERSON. IF SO, THIS WOULD RAISE FURTHER SERIOUS DOUBT THAT SOVIET TRADE UNION OFFICIAL MADE STATEMENT REPORTED REFTEL THAT JEWISH ACTIVISTS WOULD BE IN WEST BY TIME OF OLYMPICS. TOON

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